

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am signing Senate Bill 702 because I strongly support increasing safety protections for children in child care.

I am signing Senate Bill 702 because it is a good first step at trying to provide more protections for children in informal child care settings that are not required to be licensed. However, the Department of Social Services has many administrative challenges to implement the provisions of the bill. I would ask that the author and stakeholders work with the Department next year on additional legislation to ensure this law provides accountability for the TrustLine registration of child care workers, and provides meaningful safety for kids.

Additionally, the Department of Social Services will incur costs with this bill because of the increased number of child care workers who will be required to be TrustLine-registered. However, the Department has no mechanism to collect fees from these child care workers to cover its administrative costs, as required by the bill. I am also directing the Department to explore ways to secure fees from applicants so that no State General Fund resources are used.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger